

these detainees would be released into the United States. That Congressman should know better. We have passed two bills signed by President Obama which prohibit releasing detainees from Guantanamo into the United States. It is not going to happen. It shouldn't happen. So that is a fear that should be dispelled.

The third argument this Congressman made was that under the rules, every detainee would be entitled to 10 visitors a year, which meant if there is 100 detainees there would be 1,000, as he called them, Islamic followers, jihad followers, coming into the State of Illinois, landing at O'Hare and heading over across our State to the Thomson area.

Well, he is just plain wrong. The detainees currently held at Guantanamo are not entitled to any visits from family and friends. None. The only visits come from attorneys, their legal counsel, and that rule would still apply at the Thomson prison. So this notion of a thousand jihadist visitors coming to Illinois isn't going to happen. It wouldn't happen.

The fourth point that has been raised is one that I really think gets to the heart of the issue. It is the argument that if we brought these detainees to the United States and put them in a prison, there would be retaliation against the United States.

This one Congressman has gone so far as to pinpoint specific buildings in Chicago in which he thinks the terrorists would try to destroy and kill innocent people. I think that kind of designation of specific buildings crosses a line we should not cross. I don't know that it gives ideas to terrorists, but to speak of this so casually is wrong. I wish he hadn't said that. Think about what he is arguing. He argues that if we capture, prosecute, and incarcerate those who would terrorize the United States, we run the risk of retaliation. His argument is: Let's not make them mad. Well, I couldn't disagree with him more. As heartbreaking as 9/11 was, after that day we came forward with a determination to tell the world that the United States was going to make those responsible answer for the violence of that day and any other violence perpetrated upon the United States. That is what we are doing.

We have 340 terrorists currently incarcerated across America. The fact that we have successfully prosecuted 195 of them since 9/11 says we are going to use our system of justice to bring justice to this situation. If we are going to cower in fear, believing the enforcement of our laws and the incarceration of terrorists will provoke more terrorism, then we will have lost our way as a nation. We need to show the courage of our convictions to let people know the rule of law will be applied in the United States to all who harm us. That is what this incarceration at Thomson would do.

I don't know if President Obama will make the final decision to send these

detainees to his home State of Illinois. I believe we can work with the Bureau of Prisons and the Department of Defense to make certain that they are held safely, that they pay the price for what they have done, and that they are held as long as necessary to avoid any danger to people of the United States. We can do this in a humane fashion, and we can do it in a professional fashion. We don't have to apologize or run scared, as some of the critics of this idea are today.

In conclusion, I am proud of the people of Carroll County in Thomson, IL, for stepping up and realizing they desperately need help economically, seeing a great asset in that community that can be utilized to not only serve our State but to serve our Nation and to put our best foot forward to show we will apply standards of justice there that are applied across America—standards that are fair, standards that recognize the basic freedoms we hold dear and the system of justice we hold dear that says those who are guilty of crime will pay a price.

Mr. President, I yield the floor.

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to a period of morning business, with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

DESIGNATING THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 19, 2009, AS "FEED AMERICA DAY"

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Judiciary Committee be discharged from further consideration of and the Senate now proceed to S. Res. 334.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The clerk will report.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 334) designating Thursday, November 19, 2009, as "Feed America Day."

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, and the motions to reconsider be laid upon the table.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The resolution (S. Res. 334) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution, with its preamble, reads as follows:

S. RES. 334

Whereas Thanksgiving Day celebrates the spirit of selfless giving and an appreciation for family and friends;

Whereas the spirit of Thanksgiving Day is a virtue upon which the Nation was founded;

Whereas according to the Department of Agriculture, roughly 35,000,000 people in the

United States, including 12,000,000 children, continue to live in households that do not have an adequate supply of food; and

Whereas selfless sacrifice breeds a genuine spirit of thanksgiving, both affirming and restoring fundamental principles in our society: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates Thursday, November 19, 2009, as "Feed America Day"; and

(2) encourages the people of the United States to sacrifice 2 meals on Thursday, November 19, 2009, and to donate the money that they would have spent on such food to a religious or charitable organization of their choice for the purpose of feeding the hungry.

DRIVE SAFER SUNDAY

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Judiciary Committee be discharged from further consideration and the Senate now proceed to S. Res. 335.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 335) designating November 29, 2009, as "Drive Safer Sunday."

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, and the motions to reconsider be laid upon the table.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The resolution (S. Res. 335) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution, with its preamble, reads as follows:

S. RES. 335

Whereas motor vehicle travel is the primary means of transportation in the United States;

Whereas every individual traveling on the roads and highways needs to drive in a safer manner in order to reduce deaths and injuries that result from motor vehicle accidents;

Whereas according to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, wearing a seat belt saves more than 15,000 lives each year;

Whereas the Senate wants all people of the United States to understand the life-saving importance of wearing a seat belt and encourages motorists to drive safely, not just during the holiday season, but every time they get behind the wheel; and

Whereas the Sunday after Thanksgiving is the busiest highway traffic day of the year: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) encourages—

(A) high schools, colleges, universities, administrators, teachers, primary schools, and secondary schools to launch campus-wide educational campaigns to urge students to be focused on safety when driving;

(B) national trucking firms to alert their drivers to be especially focused on driving safely on the Sunday after Thanksgiving, and to publicize the importance of the day through use of Citizen's Band ("CB") radios and truck stops across the Nation;

(C) clergy to remind their members to travel safely when attending services and gatherings;